

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace indicated paragraphs with the following:

[0052] For example, octapeptides ( $P_4-P'_4$ ) for MMP 2 and MMP 9 have been identified (see Table 1), which octapeptides simulate the cleavage sequence of the collagen chain and are cleaved with particular efficiency by MMP 2 and 9 (in what follows, amino acids are abbreviated in accordance with the international three-letter code):

Table 1:

Peptide	$P_4$	$P_3$	$P_2$	$P_1$	$P'_1$	$P'_2$	$P'_3$	$P'_4$
<hr/>								
Gly-Pro-Leu-Gly--Ile-Ala-Gly-Gln								<u>[SEQ. ID No. 1]</u>
Gly-Pro-Gln-Gly--Ile-Trp-Gly-Gln								<u>[SEQ. ID No. 2]</u>

(Netzel-Arnett et al., *Biochemistry* 32, 1993, 6427-6432)

[0054] Furthermore, in the case of cathepsin B, substrate-specific peptides are known with the sequence

-Gly-Phe-Leu-Gly- SEQ. ID No. 3

-Gly-Phe-Ala-Leu- SEQ. ID No. 4

-Ala-Leu-Ala-Leu- SEQ. ID No. 5

-Arg-Arg- or -Phe-Lys-

Werle, B., Ebert, E., Klein, W., and Spiess, E. (1995), *Biol. Chem. Hoppe-Seyler* 376, 157-164; Ulrich, B., Spiess, E., Schwartz-Albiez, R., and Ebert, W. (1995), *Biol. Chem. Hoppe-Seyler* 376, 404-414).

[0055] The peptide sequence that contains intended peptide cleavage points relevant for the target enzyme can also be constructed such that the intended peptide cleavage point is repeated a plurality of times, for example by:  
-Gly-Pro-Leu-Gly--Ile-Ala-Gly-Gln-Gly-Pro-Leu-Gly--Ile-Ala-Gly-Gln **SEQ ID No. 6**  
or

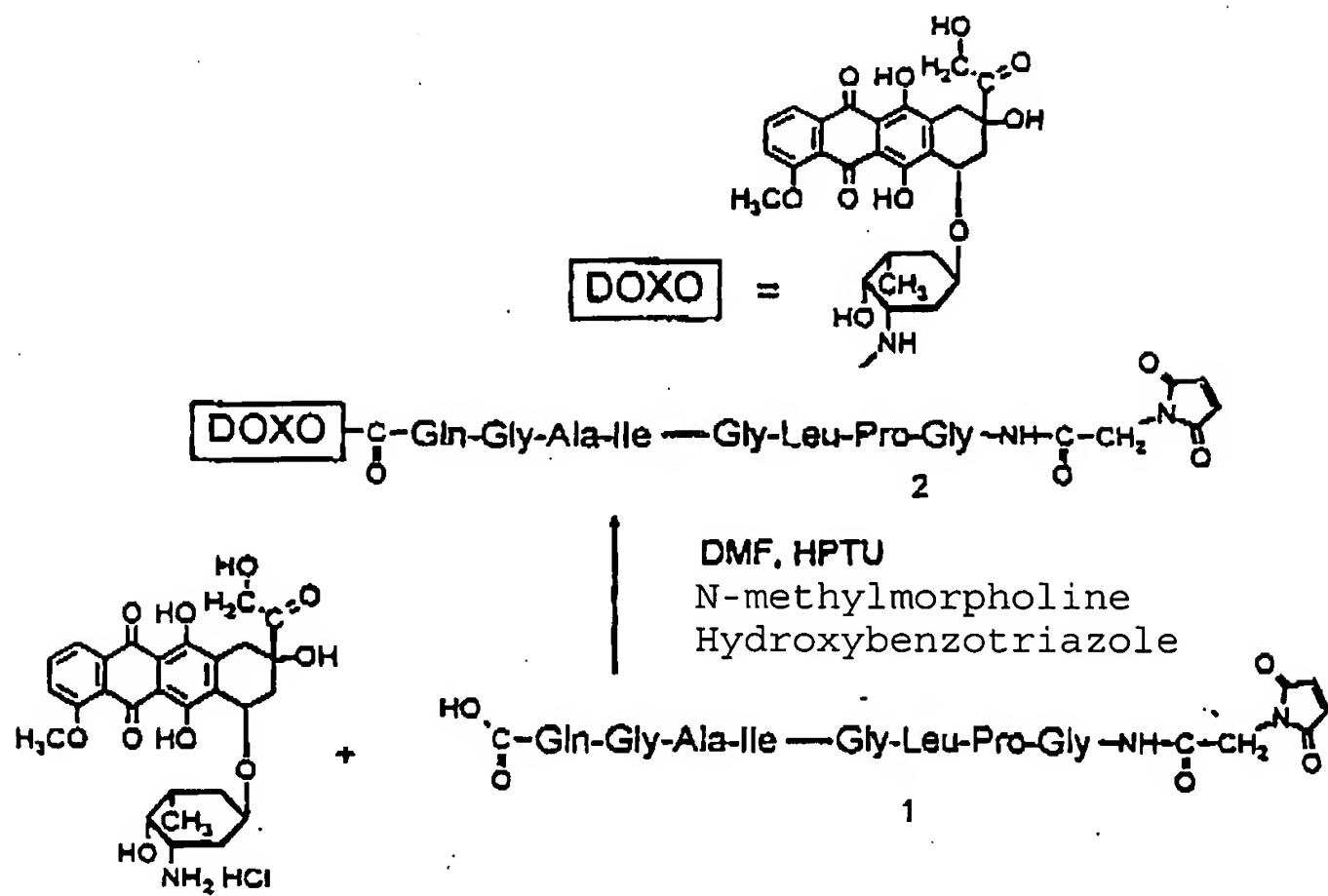
-Phe-Lys-Phe-Lys-Phe-Lys-Phe-Lys-Phe-Lys- **SEQ. ID No. 7**  
or a repetitive peptide sequence can be integrated that increases the distance between the thiol-binding group and the relevant intended peptide cleavage point, as for example by:

-(Gly)<sub>n</sub>-Phe-Lys-Phe-Lys- **SEQ ID No. 8**

with, preferably, n = 2 to 20, more preferably n ≤ 12.

[0073] Fig. 2 shows HPLC chromatograms (gel chromatography, Biosil 250 SEC column, Biorad) of a conjugate according to the invention (HSA-Cys<sup>34</sup>-2), which is cleavable by the matrix metalloprotease MMP 9. The absorption at 495 nm is also plotted versus the retention time in min. (A) Chromatogram of the conjugate HSA-Cys<sup>34</sup>-2 before incubation with MMP 9 (t = 0). (B) Chromatogram of the conjugate HSA-Cys<sup>34</sup>-2 after incubation with MMP 9 for 30 min (t = 30 min) and also showing a peak for fragment DOXO-Gln-Gly-Ala-Ile **SEQ ID No. 9**.

[0083] The doxorubicin-maleimide-peptide derivative (2) was prepared in accordance with the following reaction equation:



SEQ. ID No. 9

[0084] Here the octapeptide

Gln-Gly-Ala-Ile-Gly-Leu-Pro-Gly SEQ. ID No. 9

derivatized with maleimidoglycine 1 (Mr 848, prepared by solid-phase synthesis by Bachem AG, Switzerland) was reacted with doxorubicin according to the following method:

[0086] 3.0 mL of an HSA test portion treated with DTT (sulfhydryl content of 0.95 per HSA molecule, content of HS groups 1000  $\mu$ M) was added to a solution of 2 (Mr 1374) in DMF (5.1 mg dissolved in 250  $\mu$ L of DMF), and the reaction solution, sealed, was shaken for 30 min. The product albumin-doxorubicin conjugate was isolated using a Sephadex® HR100 column (2.0 cm x 20 cm). In this way, the albumin conjugate (designated HSA-Cys<sup>34</sup>-2 in what follows) of the following structure was isolated (exhaustion factor approximately 0.9) :



HAS = human serum albumin

SEQ. ID No. 9.

[0087] The peptide sequence Gln-Gly-Ala-Ile-Gly-

Leu-Pro-Gly SEQ. ID No. 9

is recognized by the matrix metalloprotease MMP 9 and cleaved between isoleucine and glycine. This was shown by the following experiment: 200  $\mu$ L of a 100  $\mu$ M solution of HSA-Cys<sup>34</sup>-2 was incubated for 30 minutes at 37 °C with trypsin/aprotinin-activated MMP 9 (2 mU, from Calbiochem, Germany). The liberation of DOXO-Gln-Gly-Ala-Ile due to cleavage with MMP 9 was confirmed by HPLC gel chromatography (Biosil 250 SEC column from Biorad, detection at  $\lambda = 495$  nm) before incubation ( $t = 0$ , compare Fig. 2A) and after an incubation time of 30 minutes with activated MMP 9 ( $t = 30$ , compare Fig. 2B).

Applicant is supplying a clear copy of the structure as requested by the Examiner (attached at the end of this paper identified as page 25).